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News for the
Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA

Soundings

December 2008: Vol. 25, Issue 11

Mission Outreach in Tanzania

by John Knie, member of Sammamish Hills, Sammamsish

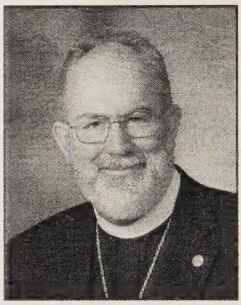
Sammamish Hills Lutheran in Sammamish (SHLC) sent a team of nine members to Tanzania this last August. The purpose of the trip was to visit three different cities in Tanzania, work with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania and identify possible long-term mission projects for SHLC.

The team started their visit in Morogoro where the diocese is planning the construction of a new math and science secondary school. Active Heifer projects in rural villages were a great inspiration and educational of the primitive living conditions for much of Tanzania's rural population.

The team also spent several days at the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School in Monduli, one of the rare institutions willing to teach girls at the secondary level. (Our synod has two ELCA Global Mission missionaries who have worked at the school since 1998: Jean Wahlstrom and Marvin Kananen.)

The trip ended with two team members traveling to the southern city of Songea, where they worked at an orphanage. HIV orphans are a huge burden on Tanzania's social infrastructure. SHLC is excited at the mission opportunities in Tanzania and has elected to support the creation of the new Ebenezer Secondary School in Morogoro. SHLC welcomes all congregations or individuals who would like to join in this important mission project.

A Word From The Bishop



First of all you must understand this, th no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one' own interpretation, because no prophecy ev came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
2 Peter 1:20-21 NR

At last year's Synod Assembly we declar ourselves to be a *Bible, Book of Faith Synod.* This means that we are participating with th rest of the ELCA in an effort to once again become, as Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson has said, "fluent in our first language of faith We are serious in our understanding that all members of the ELCA are engaged with the Bible in ways that will build up our whole church and through the church, the world. There will be a number o resources coming from Augsburg Fortress Publishers, but this process is not about specific resources.

This process is about each member of this church becoming more involved in the study and application of the Bible in our daily life. One of the great gifts that Dr. Martin Luther gave the church was the translation of the Bible into the language of the German people. With this translation, the members of the church were able to read the words of scripture and to participate in discerning the will of God for their time.

Today we are in danger of leaving the study of the Bible to the clergy and academics. Our culture is becomin increasingly Biblically illiterate. As Lutheran Christians w should know that this is not acceptable. We need to wrest with the scriptures so that we can speak a word from God to our world.

We do not worship the Bible; we worship the God we meet in the Bible. That is an important distinction. We

continued on pa

The Spirit

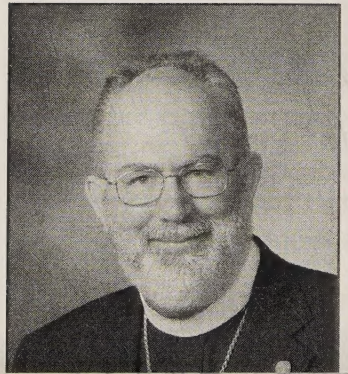
Volume 25, Number 11

News for the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

December 2008

We Are A People Of Prayer

by The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop



Many of you have read the Pastoral Letter from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Conference of Bishops related to the current financial crisis.

I want to call (LCSNW). We have the infrastructure in place for our response, now we are called to support those who are called to do this work on our behalf.

This crisis is not limited to our country. The ELCA World Hunger Appeal is our response to the global needs that this situation is creating.

The networks and personnel are already in place for us to be a sign of God's goodness to those in need around the world. The ELCA

Our Asian Leaders

Our Asian community of worship leaders is growing. The synod staff recently hosted a lunch for five of our Chinese pastors and our Indonesian leader, as well as family members.

(l to r, front row) Pastor Marlon Wang, Living Truth Chinese in Bothell; Pastor Jimmy Hao, Grace Chinese in Seattle; Rita Wang, wife of Pastor Marlon; Pastor Wern Chew Wendy Cheung, Grace Chinese in Seattle; Pastors Jianhong Rowena Wang and Mike Guoyi Wang, Grace Chinese in Renton with their son.

(l to r, back row) Pastor Red Burchfield; Region 1; Pastor Phil Reitz, Region 1; Diakonda Gurning, Indonesian Lutheran Fellowship in Seattle; Bishop Chris Boerger, Elaine Harrison, Synod Relations Administrator; and Margaret Spatafore, Office Administrator.

(Pastor Sai Wai Paul Cheung, husband of Pastor Wendy Cheung, Grace Chinese in Sammamish, could not make the lunch because he is recuperating from a liver transplant. Our prayers are with him as he recovers.)

passed a resolution to begin an initiative to read and understand Scripture.

The intentions of the program is to ask Lutheran Christians to become more familiar with the first language of faith and to have a better understanding of how we interpret Scripture. As part of the initiative process, the ELCA is asking that we register as *Book of Faith* congregations and individuals on the web site, www.bookoffaith.org. Please take time to check out the web site and register your Scripture study activity.

In our synod we are fortunate that many congregations and individuals already participate in Scripture study. But are we involved enough? What can we do to share our understandings more often and more in-depth?

Two new Augsburg Fortress publications have appeared, or will soon appear, to help us enhance our Lutheran understanding of Scripture: T*he Opening the Book of Faith Resource Kit* and *Rediscovering the Book of Faith Kit* (www.augsburgfortress.org).

Roger W. Anderson is the Synod Advocate for the *Book of Faith* initiative. Please contact share more information about this initiative at your congregation. He may be reached at biblebookoffaith@lutheransnw.org.

The Spirit, a publication of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is intended for members, leaders, and clergy of synod congregations and organizations. Congregations are encouraged to copy ***The Spirit*** and include it in their own newsletters. ***The Spirit*** can be downloaded from the Synod website.

Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA
5519 Phinney Ave North
Seattle, WA 98103-5829
Telephone: 206-783-9292
Toll Free: 1-800-244-6997
Fax: 206-783-9833
Email: office@lutheransnw.org

Editor: Margit Peiffle
Email: margit@lutheransnw.org
Telephone: 425-299-6667
Website: www.lutheransnw.org

Information for the January 2009 issue of *The Spirit* is due to the Synod Office by Wednesday, December 3.

of the letter for your consideration. We are the people to whom God has given a vision of hope that is to affect the whole creation. As people of hope, we are to remember that hope even in the times of trial and uncertainty. No one is able to predict what will come next, and yet the promise of God is still the basis of our hope and our life. In times like these we have a unique opportunity to speak the truth that is in us.

You can find the text of this letter through a link on our Synod website (www.lutheransnw.org). I want to remind you again that we have a responsibility to live with concern for those who are living in poverty. Local food banks and shelters need to be remembered as the numbers of those needing these services increase. The church can speak words of hope through the work of Lutheran Community Services Northwest

the name of those we wish to honor.

The letter also addresses the issues of our corporate and governmental responsibility in this crisis. We can, and should, hold our leaders in the public and private sectors accountable for decisions that lead to responsible economic growth and that restrains the sin of greed that afflicts us all.

The Conference of Bishops' letter ends with a call to prayer. Our lives together are based on our relationship with God. We understand prayer to be a way in which we bring our fears and laments to God. We also expect to share our petitions with God on behalf of those who are in pain or forgotten by others. We are to be a people of prayer in the face of all the uncertainties of today and tomorrow.

Editor's Note: At publication LCSNW was facing closing its Cascade Family Center at South Lake Union as a result of the the City of Seattle's funding cut. The Center serves more than 6,000 people every year. To learn more about the potential closure visit www.cascadepeoplescenter.org or www.lcsnw.org. For website addresses of organizations Bishop Boerger mentioned in his article, they are: ELCA World Hunger Appeal visit www.elca.org/hunger; for links to the Good Gifts Catalog and Lutheran Disaster Response visit our synod's website at www.lutheransnw.org.

continued from page 2

A Word from the Bishop

o wrestle with the tools of interpretation to nderstand what God is saying to us today. We so do not do this alone, but we understand at the local assembly, the congregation, is a lace where we will learn and where we will be allenged by what other believers hear God alling them to be. The study of scripture is always a give nd take among God's people.

During the coming years we pray that the study of cripture will be an increasing part of our life together. We ill be known as a church that takes the Bible seriously. want to encourage all of the efforts of Bible Study that re continuing and beginning in the Synod. The Lay heological Education Task Force has made available a umber of books that can be used as resources in this itiative. Dr. Roger Anderson has agreed to serve as our *ook of Faith* advocate. I encourage you to work with the esources the Task Force has identified and to put the gift f these books to use in your study.

We do not interpret the scripture on our own. We pray ne Holy Spirit's guidance as we work together to hear the ord of the Lord.

Soundings *is published monthly (one combined issue for May/June) by the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,*
206-783-9292 or 1-800-244-6997 (Wash. State); Fax: 206-783-9833.
office@lutheransnw.org; www.lutheransnw.org

Deadline for copy of the January 2009 issue of Soundings is Wednesday, December 3. The current issue, and archived issues, can be found on the synod's website.

Synod Staff:
The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop—boerger@lutheransnw.org
The Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop—nesse@lutheransnw.org
Jim Goeben, Webmaster—jim@lutheransnw.org
Elaine Harrison, Synod Relations Administrator—elaine@lutheransnw.org
Margit Peiffle, Synod Communications Administrator—margit@lutheransnw.org
Margaret Spatafore, Synod Office Administrator—margaret@lutheransnw.org

Bible: Book of Faith Initiative

www.bookoffaith.org

The ELCA 2005 Churchwide Assembly passed an initiative to read and understand Scripture. This initiative began in 2008 and is beginning to become more prominent.

The intentions of the program are to ask Lutheran Christians to become more familiar with the first language of faith and to have a better understanding of how we interpret Scripture. As part of the initiative process, the ELCA is asking that we register as Book of Faith congregations and individuals on the web site, www.bookoffaith.org. Please take time to check out the web site and register you Scripture study activity.

In our synod we are fortunate that many congregations and individuals already participate in Scripture study. But are we involved enough? What can we do to share our understandings more often and more in-depth?

Two new Augsburg Fortress publications have appeared, or will soon appear, to help us enhance our Lutheran understanding of Scripture: *The Opening the Book of Faith Resource Kit* and *Rediscovering the Book of Faith Kit.* The first resource includes a study guide for congregations to explore, in more detail, the book many received at the 2008 Synod Assembly, *Opening the Book of Faith*. The second resource provides information about th formation of the biblical tradition, how the text has been interpreted, and other important aspects of enhancing ou understanding of the Book of Faith.

Roger W. Anderson is the Synod Advocate for the Book of Faith initiative. Please contact him for more information, invite him to visit and to share information about this initiative at your congregation. He may be reached at biblebookoffaith@lutheransnw.org.

Youth Leader Scholarship Available

The Bergstrom Scholarship is now available to youth leaders in congregations (paid or volunteer) to attend the annual Youth Minister Training Event called *Extravaganza*. This year the event will be held from Jan. 28-Feb. 1, 2009, in New Orleans.

The Extravaganza has many classes and workshops designed for all aspects of youth ministry. There are also many resources available as well as the continual networking with other youth leaders around the ELCA. Pastors and congregations should provide for and encourage youth leaders to attend this educational/ networking event each year. (For more information visit http://archive.elca.org/youth/gathering.html)

The Bergstrom Scholarship is provided in memory of Jean Bergstrom who was a strong supporter of this event and a pioneering youth minister in our synod. A brochure is available on the calendar event on the synod website.

2010 EOCM Partnership Support Grants

Do you have a dream for developing an outreach ministry in your setting? The Evangelical Outreach and Congregation Mission Unit (EOCM) wants to partner with you in the development of your ministry.

EOCM is your ELCA Churchwide partner as congregations: develop new congregations and develop existing ministries; experience transition (especially those with 20% numerical growth for 2 or more years); empower urban and rural coalitions committed to a shared ministry strategy; promote leadership development; and establish, support and plan for multicultural outreach.

Contact the Rev. Red Burchfield at 206-624-0093 or email bcburch@earthlink.net Details, including time line and application, are available the synod website calendar.

Sabbatical Grants Available

Wheat Ridge Ministries is offering financial assistance to Lutheran congregations that are supporting and encouraging the health and wellness of church leaders by providing sabbatical experiences for pastors and other full-time professional church workers in the congregation.

This grant program is being implemented as a pilot project. Any Lutheran congregation developing a sabbatical plan for a pastor or other church worker within the grant guidelines may apply. The maximum amount per grant is $7,500 per congregation and the congregation must match the grant amount provided.

Congregations interested in applying for a Wheat Ridge Sabbatical Grant can visit www.wheatridge.org/sabbaticalgrants to review the requirements and determine whether the grant is appropriate for their needs and to download a grant application. Any questions may be referred to the Wheat Ridge office at 800.762.6748.

Other resources for sabbatical rest and renewal through its Ministry Sabbatical Resource Center online at www.wheatridge.org/sabbaticalresourcecenter.

State Advocate's Corner

by Rev. Paul Benz
Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington State

pbenz@lcsnw.org
206-464-4133
www.lppowa.org

As I write this on the day after our nation's election day we have voted and worked as faithful citizens of this country for the candidates and issues we believe in and live now with the results of the majority. No matter who you supported this was truly a historic election for the office of President. We should not underestimate the significance and impact of this election. If you have not seen the letter from our presiding bishop please view it at www.elca.org/bishopstatement and make it available for you congregation.

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Economy Impacts 6,000 People

More than 6,000 low-income residents will lose "heart and home" when Cascade People's Center in Seattle closes Dec. 31, 2008 as a result of the City of Seattle's funding cut.

Cascade People's Center, a support center of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, will close December 31 as a result of the City of Seattle's decision to cut funding for the community-run, nonprofit family support center. These funds supported the Center's core funding, without which it will be unable to continue operating. This will bring devastation to literally thousands of individuals who participate in support services offered through the Center each year.

Located at 309 Pontius Avenue, the Center is an essential community resource in the Cascade community, providing free programs and space for over 6,000 local residents each year. For more information and to find out how you can help visit www.cascadepeoplescenter.org or www.lcsnw.org.

continued from page 6

State Advocate's Corner

Keep in mind Sunday, Jan. 11 (Baptism of our Lord) is the day before the first day of the 2009 state legislature. This is a good Sunday to not only pray for the 147 state legislators seven of whom are ELCA – four from our synod) and our governor, but to make the connection that public service and advocacy is a part of our baptismal vocation. The other Sunday to lift up is Jan. 18 (this day begins the week of prayer for Christian unity and is the day before Dr. King's holiday) which is the Sunday before the presidential inauguration.

Please remember that Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington State (LPPO) is very willing to come to your church and do an advocacy Sunday 'teach & preach'. And, Faith Advocacy Day in Olympia is March 17. Registration and informational packets will be sent out in early January.

The Urgency Is Now

The Rev. Mary Bosell, pastor at Immanuel Lutheran in Everson; the Rev. Carol Jensen, pastor at St. John United in Seattle; and the Rev. Ron Moe-Lobeda, pastor at University in Seattle at the Bishop Convo in October.

More than 120 rostered leaders and spouses attended the Fall Bishop Convo at Harrison Hot Springs in October. There was time for worship, rest, conversation and learning. Our speaker this year was the Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing from the Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago. Rossing impressed upon us the urgency of developing a plan within the next eight years to reverse the current environmental demise, or suffer catastrophic consequences. Applying Jesus' healthcare plan for humanity to the whole of creation, she also reminded us that we are called to advocate for the health of the Earth as much as we speak out for human beings in need of adequate healthcare.

Ordination Of Alvina Olstead

Surrounded by the vast majority of pastors in the Whatcom Cluster and several from other clusters, Alvina Olstead was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament on Oct. 12 at the Fernadale Highschool, Ferndale. Pastor Olstead has a call to Opheim, Montana, where she will not only lead a congregation into living out their discipleship, but she will also teach three classes of band at the local high school.

Our Asian Leaders

Our Asian community of worship leaders s growing. The synod staff recently hosted a unch for five of our Chinese pastors and our ndonesian leader, as well as family members.

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(Pastor Sai Wai Paul Cheung, husband of Pastor Vendy Cheung, Grace Chinese in Sammamish, could not nake the lunch because he is recuperating from a liver ransplant. Our prayers are with him as he recovers.)

Region 1 Pastor Conference

Dr. Tony Campolo

Dr. Tony Campolo is the speaker at the 009 Region 1 Pastors Conference from April 0-22 at the Hotel Grand Pacific, Victoria, .C. This year's theme is *Serving a God of ompassion*. Cost is $355 a person, or $660 a ouple (children free). Accommodations and neals included. Details and registration form t www.region1pastors.org or contact Pastor Sandra Kreis 60-432-8530 or Pastor Doug Lindsay 206-623-7447.

Adult Faith Formation

Faith and Font, an adult faith formation workshop, will be held from January 23-25, 2009, with Diana Butler Bass at Phinney Ridge in Seattle. Bass featured *The WAY* at Phinney Ridge in her 2006 best selling book, *Christianity for the Rest of Us. The WAY* is an expression of the ancient catechumenate process for forming new Christians. Bring a team of clergy and laity. Learn how to use the catechumenate in your local setting. Leaders are Pastors Paul Hoffman and Beverly Piro of Phinney Ridge and lay catechists from the Seattle area.

Sessions will take place at Phinney Ridge, and includ worship with the congregation on Sunday. Discounted registration is offered to congregations that bring three or more participants. A brochure and registration information is available at www.catechumenate.org. Registration deadline is Dec. 30, 2008.

Music Clinics

Augsburg Fortress Winter 2009 Music Clinics will be held with clinician Aaron David Miller on Saturday, Jan. 17 , at Trinity Lutheran in Lynnwood. This is a continuing education opportunity for church musicians and enrichment of music in worship. This event is free. On-lin registration is available in December through Augsburg Fortress. Music packets for these sessions cost $1 each an include complete copies of all the music for you to keep.

Event Reminders

(Editor's Note: Details for these events are available: www.lutheransnw.org/calendar.)

Preaching in a time of Lament is the title fo the Byberg Preaching Workshop 2009, to be held January 19 - 21 at Cannon Beach, OR.

The Future of Ministry: Adaptation or Extinction event will be held from Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009, and Friday, Feb. 13, 2009. The event will be held at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. Registration available at: www.plu.edu/!crel.

Northwest Washington Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Almighty God, ...teach us how to govern the ways of business to the harm of none and for the sake of the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 78

Grace and peace to you.

As bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we are deeply concerned about the current financial crisis, which is affecting not only our nation but the entire global economy. This crisis is causing fear and loss in our country as thousands of families face unemployment, foreclosure, and uncertainty about savings and pensions. Meanwhile, they struggle to put food on the table and gas into their cars. The future is uncertain for all of us, but it is especially frightening for those who are already vulnerable and struggling to survive. We offer our prayers for those whose lives are being affected and for our national leaders as they seek to address this complex matter.

We call on all people in our own communities of faith and [illegible]

businesses and corporations of all sizes to consider the social implications of company policies and to practice good stewardship of creation (Genesis 1:26).

The Need for Good Government

We hold and teach that government has an instrumental and constructive role to play in our shared life. This role includes "limiting or countering narrow economic interests and promoting the common good" ("Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All," p. 11). We call on government to hold corporations and other powerful economic actors accountable for the effects of their practices on workers, communities, and the environment.

The Benefits and Limits of Free Markets

For many people, the current market-based economy has proven to be effective as a system to meet material need, generate wealth, and create opportunity. However, we hold and teach that any economic system should be measured by the degree to which it serves God's purposes for humankind and creation. Those who have been blessed by the fruits of our economy are called to be generous in giving to those who have lost much and to advocate for accountability and appropriate regulation in this system.

As people of the God who calls us out of fear into hope and community, we welcome all people into widespread and respectful discussion about this current crisis. In this way we can create partnerships that will help those whose lives are being shattered and encourage responsibility and integrity in our national economic life.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Guide us with your justice in the workplace, so that we may never value things above people, or surrender honor to love of gain or lust for power. Prosper all efforts to put an end to work that brings no joy, and teach us how to govern the ways of business to the harm of none and for the sake of the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Conference of Bishops
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
October 7, 2008

economic life, our financial behaviors, and the interconnectedness of all life and creation that cries out to be reclaimed.

This church has addressed the issues surrounding economic life in its social statement, "Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All", and we encourage the use of this statement as a way to understand more fully how the following theological and biblical principles are central as we respond to this situation.

Concern for People in Poverty

The constitution of the ELCA calls this church to serve by "standing with the poor and powerless and committing itself to their needs." (ELCA 4.02.c.). We are grateful for the pastors and leaders in our congregations who already have stepped forward to care for those who are suffering, and we encourage them to continue this response and to provide leadership in the task of turning our attention to the causes and effects of this crisis. We are called to work toward an economic system that truly serves the common good and especially the needs of the poor. We look for partnership with all those who seek to address this financial crisis in a way that also recognizes the humanitarian issues involved.

Personal and Corporate Responsibility

The ELCA social statement on economic life calls for individuals to live responsibly and within their means and to beware of the dangers of over-consumption and unnecessary accumulation, which draw us beyond authentic need into excess and destructive indebtedness. We call on

Here 'n There

- The annual **Synod Office Advent Open House** will be held from 1 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, at the synod office.
- **Augsburg Fortress** announced in early November that it will focus its ministry on its "two most important callings" -- group-use materials for congregations, such as faith formation and worship materials, and textbooks and monographs for higher education. These changes were based on a year of analysis of market and business research. The strategic plan was approved at a regular October meeting of the board of trustees. The new business plan will result in some personnel changes. For the full announcement visit www.augsburgfortress.org, click on community and in the news.
- ***Alpha & Omega***—Join Trinity Lutheran College in Everett for a special weekend of Advent Celebration brought to you by the Trinity Music Department under the direction of Rachel Root. Two concerts will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 6 at First Presbyterian, Everett; and at 3 p.m. on Dec. 7 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynnwood. Call 425-249-4800 or visit www.tlc.edu.
- Mark your calendars: The convention for the **Northwest Washington Synod Synodical Women's Organization** will be held Oct. 2-3, 2009, at St. Luke's, Bellevue.

Free

Items free: 16-channel board (needs ome repairs); sound system odds and ends cluding older wireless mics (some work me don't, but may have the part you're looking for); d some older speakers. Contact Camano Lutheran at manoclc@wavecable.com or 360- 629-4592.

Job Opening

Denny Park in Seattle is seeking organist/ oir director to start Jan. 1, 2009. Send sume to dennyparklutheran@yahoo.com or ll 206-623-7447.

Within Our Family

We continue to hold in our prayers:

† **Paul Anderson, Associate in Ministry**
† **The Rev. Sai Wai Pau (Paul) Cheung**
† **The Rev. John Ericksen and his wife, Marita**
† **The Rev. Paul Wuest**

We pray for:

† **Tricia Larsen,** immediate Past President of the Association of Lutheran Development Executives, Evergreen Chapter and director of the ELCA Planned Giving Consortium in Oregon Synod, has stage four cancer. Tricia was a long-time member of Grace, Des Moines. Her husband, David, is a pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Portland.

† **The Rev. Kari Reiten,** pastor at Faith Lutheran in Everett. She has been suffering from severe hip and leg pain that will require physical therapy and time to heal. Cards may be sent to: Faith Lutheran, 6708 Cady Rd, Everett, WA 98203.

† **The Rev. Randy Nicolai**, Campus Pastor at Washington State University. His parents, the Rev. John (ret.) and wife Lorraine Nicolai , died in a car accident in October in North Dakota. The funeral was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bismark where Pastor Nicolai served for many years. Cards may be sent to: : PO Box 1402, Pullman, WA 99163-1381

† **The Rev. Suzanne Appelo,** pastor at Gull Harbor in Olympia, and her family. Suzanne's father died at the age of 95 in early November. Cards may be sent to: Gull Harbor Lutheran Church, 4610 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia, WA 98506-1857.

† **The family Cheryl Storey, Associate in Ministry** at Mercer Island Presbyterian. Her father, Louis

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continued from page 12

Within Our Family

Colantonio, died in mid-October at an adult family home in Bellevue. Cards may be sent to: Cheryl Storey; Director of Music; Mercer Island Presbyterian Church; 3605 – 84th Ave SE; Mercer Island, WA 98040.

- **The Rev. Jim Peterson (ret.).** In October the Synod Office learned in early Ocotber that Pastor Jim Peterson died on September 26. He was pastor at Crown in Seattle and Central in Everett. He is survived by his wife, Gladys. He was living in Minesota at the time of his death.
- At the regular Tuesday worship and synod staff meeting, we pray for our pastors, churches and members. We pray for our country and the world during the recent financial crisis. We pray for our companion synods, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus - Northern Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Russia and Other States We pray for peace.

Update

Board Of Pensions

- **Salary Changes**—Report changes in salary to us via the new online salary change form. (Note: After completing the form online you will need to print, sign (member and sponsor) and submit to BoP via U.S. mail.) https://www.elcabop.org/Home/Forms/Online/ChangeOfSalary.aspx
- **New 403(b) regulations**—Notification was sent regarding changes to these regulations in 2009 and how they will affect you. https://www.elcabop.org/Home/BenefitsAdmin/403bRegs.aspx
- **2009 Flexible spending account enrollment**—Employees sponsored with ELCA-primary health coverage will soon receive information about setting up a flexible spending account for 2009. Employees must return the enrollment, signed, by Dec. 11. https://www.elcabop.org/Home/Forms/Online/ChangeOfSalary.aspx

Northwest Washington Synod Transitions

	Location/Event	Effective Dat
Calls Accepted		
Joe H. Kutzke	Bethlehem, Marysville	11/30/2008
Jennifer Schultze	Salem, Mount Vernon	11/1/2008
Installations		
Joe H. Kutzke	Bethlehem, Marysville	12/7/2008
Jennifer Schultze	Salem, Mount Vernon	11/30/2008
Ordinations/Commissionings/ Consecrations		
Alvina Olstead (for Montana Synod)	Ferndale High School Auditorium	10/12/2008
Retirements		
Randy Grauer	Christ the Servant, Bellingham	10/1/2008
Estelle Morley, Associate in Ministry	Lutheran Memorial, Seattle	10/1/2008

Visiting Holden Village

Pastor Kristy Daniels, Church of Steadfast Love in Seattle, Compass Center, and Lindsey Lund, Volunteer Coordinator took a group of six congregation members to Holden Village for a week. Pastor Kristy says, "It was a wonderful experience. It was a time of relaxation, prayer, worship and healing. The group definitely came together as a community. Holden was very welcoming and accommodating to our needs. We were able to lead some short worship services and participate in village projects. A few of the men were invited to return for longer stays."

'ditor's Note: For the most up-to-date listing of transitions and mobility please visit our 'ebsite at www.lutheransnw.org and click on Leadership. That website page is updated 'eekly, when necessary.

Northwest Washington Synod Mobility

In Call Process	Position	Status	Current, Interim/Supply Pastor
Arlington, Our Saviour	PR	TR	Marillyn Schultz Rothermel, Interim
Bainbridge Island, Bethany	PR	TR	Andrew Yee, Co-Pastor; Dennis Shaffert, Interim, Co-Pastor
Bellingham, Christ the Servant	PR	TR	Jim Miley, Interim
Bothell, First Evangelical	PR	TR	Doug Stensby, Interim
Bothell, Light of the Cross	PR	TR	Cindy Salo, Interim
Burlington, Burlington	PR	TR	Michael Swain, Interim
Edmonds, Edmonds	A	I	Michael Ross, Pastor
Everett, Zion	PR	TR	Mitch Watney, Supply
Everson, Immanuel	PR	P	Mary Bosell, Interim
Kirkland, Holy Spirit	A/SP	C	Michael Anderson, Senior Pastor
Mercer Island, Holy Trinity	PR	C	Kathleen Anderson, Interim
Mount Vernon, First Evangelical	PR	TR	Linda Larson, Interim
Mukilteo, Harbour Pointe	PR	NV	Supply
North Bend, Mount Si	PR	P	Tim Wolbrecht, Interim
Seattle, Gethsemane	PR	TR	Maynard Atik, Interim
Seattle, Luther Memorial	PR	I	Karen Hanson, Interim
Seattle, St Paul's of Shorewood	PR	TR	Supply

Mobility Position Key:
'R = Pastor
\ = Associate
AIM = Associate in Ministry
)M = Diaconal Minister
\/SP = Associate with Special
:mphasis contact Synod Office)

Mobility Status Key:
I = Interviewing
C = Calling
NV = New Vacancy
V = Vacancy
SC = Synod Call
TR = Transition process
P = Profile presented (receiving nominations)
TR/DO = Div for Outreach Transformation Process

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northwest Washington Synod
5519 Phinney Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98103-5299

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Table of Contents

Bishop's Message ..... page 2
Bible Book of Faith ..... page 4
Scholarships ..... page 5
Adocate's Corner ..... page 6
News and Events ..... page 8-10
Here 'n There ..... page 11
In Our Family ..... page 12
Transitions/Mobility ... page 14-15

Graduate Theological Union
2400 Ridge Rd
Berkley CA 94709-1212